

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Makito MUKAE

Appln. No.: Not yet assigned

Confirmation No.: Not yet assigned

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Filed: February 19, 2002

Examiner: Not yet assigned

For: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING PNEUMATIC TIRE

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**Please enter the following amended claims:**

3. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the stiffener previously attached to the bead core is fallen down at a position corresponding to a notch formed in the stiffener.

7. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the falling deformation of the stiffener is carried out under an attachment of a support tongue-shaped portion of the stiffener protruding from a rotating fulcrum of the stiffener toward a forward side in a falling direction onto a surface of the bead core.

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

9. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the stiffener is stood up in an expansion deformation of an axially central portion of the carcass band through the shaping thereof after the bead core is locked.

13. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein operations ranging from the setting of the bead core to the joining of the belt and the tread to the carcass band are carried out on one shaping drum.

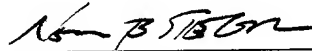
14. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein after the setting of the bead core is completed, the carcass band is transferred to another shaping drum to conduct the joining of the belt and the tread to the carcass band.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested. The claims have been amended to delete the multiple dependency.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: February 19, 2002

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

3. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein the stiffener previously attached to the bead core is fallen down at a position corresponding to a notch formed in the stiffener.

7. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein the falling deformation of the stiffener is carried out under an attachment of a support tongue-shaped portion of the stiffener protruding from a rotating fulcrum of the stiffener toward a forward side in a falling direction onto a surface of the bead core.

9. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein the stiffener is stood up in an expansion deformation of an axially central portion of the carcass band through the shaping thereof after the bead core is locked.

13. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein operations ranging from the setting of the bead core to the joining of the belt and the tread to the carcass band are carried out on one shaping drum.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

14. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein after the setting of the bead core is completed, the carcass band is transferred to another shaping drum to conduct the joining of the belt and the tread to the carcass band.

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